

SECTION V ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES



1. ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

(1) Description of environmental protection of the Company other than key pollutant discharging units

The Company and its subsidiaries are not the key pollutant discharging units announced by the environmental protection department. The Company and its subsidiaries earnestly implement *the Environmental Protection Law of the People's Republic of China, the Law on the Prevention and Control of Environment Pollution Caused by Solid Wastes of the People's Republic of China, the Law of the People's Republic of China on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Prevention and Control of Atmospheric Pollution* and other environmental protection laws and regulations in their daily production and operation. The production and operation activities are in compliance with the relevant national environmental protection requirements.

(2) Relevant information on protecting the ecology, preventing and controlling pollution, and fulfilling environmental responsibilities

The company adheres to the concept of green development, actively participates in various activities such as ecological protection and pollution control, fully commits to social responsibilities, and empowers the green development of the whole society.

1. The Company actively promotes and advocates water conservation by posting reminders regarding water conservation near water facilities and appliances. The Company continuously strengthens the management on water usage, carries out sewage discharge management, promotes the recycled use of water for production, actively uses reclaimed

water as an alternative to tap water while the requirements on use of water are met, popularises the use of water-saving appliances and performs regular checks and repairs on each part of the water supply system to prevent occurrences of water leakage and water wastage.

2. The Company enhances the recycling, disposal and utilisation of waste and used materials in order to conserve resources as much as possible and reduce environmental pollution. The Company strictly follows *the Law on the Prevention and Control of Environment Pollution Caused by Solid Wastes of the People's Republic of China* and other laws and regulations regarding waste disposal and utilisation and carries out waste disposal in accordance with regulatory requirements.
3. The Company takes proactive environmental protection measures regarding issues in telecommunications engineering construction in response to concerns of the government and the public, such as farmland protection, equipment pollution, construction impact and electromagnetic radiation to ensure compliance with the government's regulatory requirements, and to actively communicate with the public.
4. The Company, from the perspectives of technology and systems, actively encourages paper saving and reduces paper use. The Company continuously promotes electronic accounting files management, VAT electronic invoice, e-reimbursement and filing of e-invoice and paperless operation, and promotes automatic process of tax declaration in order to reduce the use of paper.



(3) Measures taken to reduce carbon emissions during the Reporting Period and their effects

In the first half of the year, the Company firmly followed the green and low-carbon development path to steadily promote green and low-carbon development with accelerated progress and high-quality. The Company set up the Office of Carbon Dioxide Peaking and Carbon Neutrality Leading Group and set up a special team for green development to incorporate green concepts and green capabilities into the whole process of “Cloudification and Digital Transformation”, forming a 1248 green and low-carbon development model. It incorporated green development into the whole process of production and operation and all fields, and comprehensively transformed from dual control of energy consumption to dual control of carbon. Strict assessment and control mechanism have been set up to control the total amount of carbon emissions and the intensity of carbon emissions. In the first half of the year, through measures such as co-build and co-share of 4/5G base stations, retirement of old equipment, AI energy conservation at base stations and intelligent management of machine rooms, the Company achieved a year-on-year reduction of over 15% in the overall energy consumption per unit of information flow, and reduced carbon emissions by over 3 million tons.

2. CONSOLIDATION AND EXPANSION OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND PROSPERITY OF RURAL VILLAGES

In the first half of 2022, the Company studied and engaged in the rural revitalisation and targeted poverty alleviation work for 2022 and issued the *2022 Key Points of China Telecom on Comprehensive Promotion of Rural Revitalisation*. The digital life company was newly invited as a member of the leading group for rural revitalisation. The construction of digital villages facilitated the Company's enterprise cloud-network integration in effectively consolidating and expanding effective connections between the achievements of poverty alleviation and rural revitalisation.

The Company accelerated the implementation of targeted poverty alleviation work and actively carried out poverty alleviation through consumption by organising talent training activities for 9,735 persons; promoted the research and formulation of the implementation plan for digital village products and demonstration points; carried out the “Spring Action” to promote the development of digital economy; built up 112,000 China Telecom digital villages; and empowered rural industrial revitalisation, talent revitalisation, cultural revitalisation, ecological revitalisation and organisational revitalisation with the construction of digital villages.

The Company successfully completed all tasks for the targeted poverty alleviation assessment in 2021, and has attained the highest grade in the evaluation of the effectiveness of targeted poverty alleviation by units of the Central Government for four consecutive years, ranking in the top ten in central state-owned enterprises.